



EXHIBIT 4
DATE 1-8-07
HB 2



Secure Treatment & Examination Program (STEP)
A partnership between DOC & DPHHS
December 14, 2006

Nationally, approximately 16% of persons in the custody of Departments of Corrections suffer from mental disorders; and more than 75% of mentally ill offenders also suffer from a co-occurring substance use disorder. The Montana Departments of Corrections and Public Health and Human Services recognize that we often have a shared client base.

The STEP is proposed to improve outcomes for our shared clients...

The STEP will provide mental health and addiction treatment services for offenders who have been charged and/or convicted of criminal acts and are, by court order in a criminal proceeding, placed into the custody of either Department for examination, treatment, incarceration, or custody.

Mentally ill offenders have unique treatment needs. This proposal seeks to create a program that will enhance the state's ability to deliver targeted mental health and addiction treatment; within a secure facility that has been designed to address the safety and wellbeing of the general public, the offenders and the staff who will administer the program.

Goals

- The program will delivery co-occurring treatment to address both mental illnesses and substance use disorders; an expectation rather than exception in the target population
- The program will be recovery focused
- The program will mesh the treatment offenders receive at STEP with the treatment they get in prison, other corrections facilities and the community to offer them a seamless transition as they strive to heal and improve themselves and earn opportunities to return to the community.
- The program will provide the skills necessary for some offenders, as sentencing allows, to move into the least-restrictive environment, including community corrections programs such as prerelease centers, parole, group homes or intensive supervision.
- The program will provide an opportunity for reduced lengths of stay in secure facilities for some individuals due to stabilization of health care issues and improved linkages with community services
- The program will provide a secure setting for crisis management that is difficult to offer at MSP/MWP.
- The program will provide heightened security for those patients who have been criminally charged and/or convicted; sentenced to the Department of Public Health and Human Services and currently placed at Montana State Hospital on the Forensic Unit.
- The program will provide opportunity for cross training of personnel. Due to sentencing restrictions, some of the participants in the STEP program may transition back to a less restrictive setting within MSP/MWP rather than into community placements. Training of staff will further enhance the ability of all facilities to serve the target population.

Service Population:

The persons to be served through the program are adults within the following priority populations:

- Criminally convicted persons sentenced to the custody of the Montana Department of Corrections, MSP or MWP who have serious mental illness, are in acute mental health crisis, or are mentally unstable exhibiting symptoms of mental disorder;
- Criminally convicted persons who at sentencing are determined by the court to have had a mental disease or defect at the time of the commission of the crime and are sentenced to the custody of the Director of the Department of Health & Human Services in accordance with 46-14-312, MCA;
- Persons who are being criminally prosecuted and who have been ordered by the court in accordance with 46-14-202, MCA to the State Hospital to be evaluated within a 60 day period or other period as ordered by the court.
- Persons who are being criminally prosecuted and who have been ordered by the court in accordance with 46-14-221, MCA to the custody of the director of the department of public health and human services for so long as the unfitness endures or until disposition of the defendant.

Location:

This specialized health care program will be provided by professional staff within the Dr. Xanthopolis Building on the Warm Springs Campus; a secure facility that will be renovated to meet the applicable safety and protection standards adopted by the American Correctional Association and the MT Dept of Corrections. Facility improvements will be completed through the Long Range Building process and it is estimated that participants may begin moving into the STEP facility in December 2008.

Staffing:

STEP will be staffed through a combination of new and existing staff at the Montana State Hospital. 62.50 New FTE are requested, while 59.00 existing FTE will be transferred from the hospital to STEP.

Budget:

New funding requested: \$3,861,056 General Fund for the biennium. The Dr. Xanthopolis Building will be renovated to meet the security and treatment needs of the target population for the STEP program. In addition, the Receiving Hospital on the Warm Springs Campus will be renovated to accommodate the WATCH program, currently housed in the Dr. Xanthopolis building. Facility improvements will be completed through the Long Range Building process and it is estimated that participants may begin moving into the STEP facility in December 2008. Cost estimates have been adjusted to reflect the staggered implementation timeline for the program.

Risks without STEP

- The program will offer a higher level of security for forensic patients, who are some of the most dangerous and unpredictable patients at MSH. Without this program, there is increased risk of patient elopements and potential for increased safety risks to both patients and staff.
- The program will reduce the potential for a crisis at MSP/MWP due to an inability to move inmates to appropriate housing, and staff usage would improve.
- The program will help to ease overcrowding at Montana State Hospital by moving forensic patients – those judged guilty but mentally ill – to the STEP program, utilizing an existing building on the Warm Springs campus. Without this program, there is potential need to build more beds at MSH to serve a burgeoning group of forensics patients in addition to those patients who are civilly committed.
- The program will help to ease overcrowding at MSP/MWP by transferring mentally ill inmates to STEP, allowing improved management of the remaining inmates in the prison's mental health treatment unit. Dozens of inmates housed in the high-security side of the prison, who are currently eligible to move to the low-security side due to good behavior, will have space to move. Without this program, inmates may be held in high-security unnecessarily.



EXHIBIT 4
DATE 1-8-07
HB 2



Secure Treatment & Examination Program (STEP)

A partnership between DOC & DPHHS

December 14, 2006

Nationally, approximately 16% of persons in the custody of Departments of Corrections suffer from mental disorders; and more than 75% of mentally ill offenders also suffer from a co-occurring substance use disorder. The Montana Departments of Corrections and Public Health and Human Services recognize that we often have a shared client base.

The STEP is proposed to improve outcomes for our shared clients...

The STEP will provide mental health and addiction treatment services for offenders who have been charged and/or convicted of criminal acts and are, by court order in a criminal proceeding, placed into the custody of either Department for examination, treatment, incarceration, or custody.

Mentally ill offenders have unique treatment needs. This proposal seeks to create a program that will enhance the state's ability to deliver targeted mental health and addiction treatment; within a secure facility that has been designed to address the safety and wellbeing of the general public, the offenders and the staff who will administer the program.

Goals

- The program will delivery co-occurring treatment to address both mental illnesses and substance use disorders; an expectation rather than exception in the target population
- The program will be recovery focused
- The program will mesh the treatment offenders receive at STEP with the treatment they get in prison, other corrections facilities and the community to offer them a seamless transition as they strive to heal and improve themselves and earn opportunities to return to the community.
- The program will provide the skills necessary for some offenders, as sentencing allows, to move into the least-restrictive environment, including community corrections programs such as prerelease centers, parole, group homes or intensive supervision.
- The program will provide an opportunity for reduced lengths of stay in secure facilities for some individuals due to stabilization of health care issues and improved linkages with community services
- The program will provide a secure setting for crisis management that is difficult to offer at MSP/MWP.
- The program will provide heightened security for those patients who have been criminally charged and/or convicted; sentenced to the Department of Public Health and Human Services and currently placed at Montana State Hospital on the Forensic Unit.
- The program will provide opportunity for cross training of personnel. Due to sentencing restrictions, some of the participants in the STEP program may transition back to a less restrictive setting within MSP/MWP rather than into community placements. Training of staff will further enhance the ability of all facilities to serve the target population.

Service Population:

The persons to be served through the program are adults within the following priority populations:

- Criminally convicted persons sentenced to the custody of the Montana Department of Corrections, MSP or MWP who have serious mental illness, are in acute mental health crisis, or are mentally unstable exhibiting symptoms of mental disorder;
- Criminally convicted persons who at sentencing are determined by the court to have had a mental disease or defect at the time of the commission of the crime and are sentenced to the custody of the Director of the Department of Health & Human Services in accordance with 46-14-312, MCA;
- Persons who are being criminally prosecuted and who have been ordered by the court in accordance with 46-14-202, MCA to the State Hospital to be evaluated within a 60 day period or other period as ordered by the court.
- Persons who are being criminally prosecuted and who have been ordered by the court in accordance with 46-14-221, MCA to the custody of the director of the department of public health and human services for so long as the unfitness endures or until disposition of the defendant.

Location:

This specialized health care program will be provided by professional staff within the Dr. Xanthopolis Building on the Warm Springs Campus; a secure facility that will be renovated to meet the applicable safety and protection standards adopted by the American Correctional Association and the MT Dept of Corrections. Facility improvements will be completed through the Long Range Building process and it is estimated that participants may begin moving into the STEP facility in December 2008.

Staffing:

STEP will be staffed through a combination of new and existing staff at the Montana State Hospital. 62.50 New FTE are requested, while 59.00 existing FTE will be transferred from the hospital to STEP.

Budget:

New funding requested: \$3,861,056 General Fund for the biennium. The Dr. Xanthopolis Building will be renovated to meet the security and treatment needs of the target population for the STEP program. In addition, the Receiving Hospital on the Warm Springs Campus will be renovated to accommodate the WATCH program, currently housed in the Dr. Xanthopolis building. Facility improvements will be completed through the Long Range Building process and it is estimated that participants may begin moving into the STEP facility in December 2008. Cost estimates have been adjusted to reflect the staggered implementation timeline for the program.

Risks without STEP

- The program will offer a higher level of security for forensic patients, who are some of the most dangerous and unpredictable patients at MSH. Without this program, there is increased risk of patient elopements and potential for increased safety risks to both patients and staff.
- The program will reduce the potential for a crisis at MSP/MWP due to an inability to move inmates to appropriate housing, and staff usage would improve.
- The program will help to ease overcrowding at Montana State Hospital by moving forensic patients – those judged guilty but mentally ill – to the STEP program, utilizing an existing building on the Warm Springs campus. Without this program, there is potential need to build more beds at MSH to serve a burgeoning group of forensics patients in addition to those patients who are civilly committed.
- The program will help to ease overcrowding at MSP/MWP by transferring mentally ill inmates to STEP, allowing improved management of the remaining inmates in the prison's mental health treatment unit. Dozens of inmates housed in the high-security side of the prison, who are currently eligible to move to the low-security side due to good behavior, will have space to move. Without this program, inmates may be held in high-security unnecessarily.